

VZCZCXRO2107  
PP RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHDIR RUEHKUK  
DE RUEHLO #1688/01 1761557  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 241557Z JUN 08  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9011  
INFO RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1190

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 001688

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/23/2018  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PINF](#) [PREL](#) [IR](#) [UK](#) [XF](#) [ZP](#) [ZR](#)  
SUBJECT: IRAN WANTS QUIET DISCUSSIONS WITH U.S. ON AFGHAN REFUGEES, XXXXXXXXXXXX CLAIMS

Classified By: Acting Political Counselor Leslie Tsou for reasons 1.4 b and d 1. (C/NF)

Summary: The Iranian Interior Ministry is searching for a channel to USG authorities to discuss Afghan refugee issues within a UN framework, a  
[12](#). (C/NF) An XXXXXXXXXXXX based in Iran told London Iran Watcher (Poloff) that Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) refugee officials want to meet t  
Iran Interior Ministry Has Afghan Problem -----

[13](#). (C/NF) XXXXXXXXXXXX spoke with Poloff on the margins of XXXXXXXXXXXX. (Bio note: According to his business card, XXXXXXXXXXXX. End note.)

[14](#). (C/NF) The IRI has a long-standing public position against meeting with any UN refugee delegation that included USG representatives, XXXXXX  
Officials Reportedly Disavow Anti-U.S. Line -----

[15](#). (C/NF) Referring to what he called a dire Iranian need for UN officials to visit Iran to plan for processing of Afghan refugees there, XXXX

[16](#). (C/NF) Poloff commented that Iran's immediate equities with respect to the refugee population Iran now hosts are considerably heavier than

[17](#). (C/NF) XXXXXXXXXXXX. Poloff told XXXXXXXXXXXX he would forward XXXXXXXXXXXX's contact info to Washington and IRPO officials, but could mak  
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[18](#). (C/NF) Poloff's fortuitous presence at the XXXXXXXXXXXX event, and the circumstances of the encounter on the margins afterward, make it in